

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending in the application. Claim 2 has been cancelled by this amendment. Therefore, claims 1, 3, 4, and 6-17 are at issue.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of originally filed, and now-cancelled, claim 2. Support for this amendment can be found in claim 2 and in the specification at page 12, lines 13-26, for example.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-9, 13, 14, 16, and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Gerhart et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,902,719 ('719). In addition, claims 2, 10, 11, and 15 stand objected to, but allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In view of the amendment to claim 1, which incorporates the features of objected to, but allowable, claim 2, it is submitted that the rejection of claims 1, 3, 6-9, 13, 14, 16, and 17 as being anticipated by, or obvious over, the '719 patent now is moot. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 1, and claims 3, 4, and 6-17 depending therefrom, are in a condition for allowance.

In summary, it is submitted that all pending claims are now in proper form and scope for allowance. An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

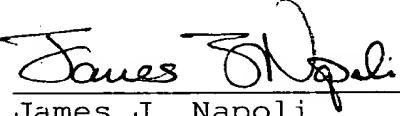
Should the examiner wish to discuss the foregoing, or any matter of form in an effort to advance this application toward allowance, the examiner is

urged to telephone the undersigned at the indicated number.

Respectfully submitted,

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